

What is claimed is:

1. An ophthalmic apparatus comprising:
  - a light control means formed with an aperture having a predetermined shape;
  - 5 means for projecting the aperture onto a surface of tear film collected on a lower eyelid;
  - means for imaging the aperture projected on the tear film surface; and
  - a means for evaluating a physical quantity of
  - 10 lacrimal fluid based on the image of the aperture thus obtained.
2. An ophthalmic apparatus according to claim 1, wherein a radius of meniscus curvature is calculated based on the aperture image.
- 15 3. An ophthalmic apparatus according to claim 2, wherein a dry eye condition is evaluated based on the calculated radius of meniscus curvature.
4. An ophthalmic apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the light control means is a grid comprised of a
- 20 plurality of slit-shaped apertures arranged in an equidistant arrangement.
5. An ophthalmic apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the projection means and imaging means are each provided with a polarizing plate.
- 25 6. An ophthalmic apparatus according to claim 1, wherein an orientation of an aperture can be adjusted in

accordance with a position of the aperture projected on the tear film surface.

7. An ophthalmic apparatus according to claim 1, wherein an optical system of the projection means and an
- 5 optical system of the imaging means are arranged coaxially.

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